

U.S. Department of Justice
Immigration and Naturalization Service
U.S. Border Patrol – Detroit Sector
26000 South Street, Building 1516
Selfridge ANGB, Michigan 48045



NEWS RELEASE

November 22, 2002

Smuggling venture thwarted near Algonac *Seven Undocumented Chinese Nationals intercepted*

A smuggling venture involving Chinese nationals was thwarted yesterday morning when a vigilant resident reported suspicious activity to the local Sheriffs Department. A total of seven Chinese nationals were arrested for illegally entering the United States.

A local resident called the Saint Claire Sheriffs Department to report suspected trespassers after the motion light detectors were activated. Sheriffs Deputies responded and located five Chinese nationals hiding on the property. The Sheriffs Department called the U.S. Border Patrol. In addition to Border Patrol agents, a Border Patrol helicopter was dispatched. Two additional Chinese nationals were discovered near the property, bringing the total number of arrests to seven.

The landing area is a known route used by alien smugglers. The undocumented aliens, six males and one female, reported being charged between \$60,000-65,000 each by the smugglers. Of the seven, two are being charged criminally with felony re-entry after deportation. The remaining five will be processed for administrative immigration charges.

“Immigration enforcement is a major component in the ongoing effort to tighten our borders and increase homeland security,” said Acting Chief Patrol Agent Loretta Lopez-Mossman. “Disrupting smuggling organizations is a credit to not only the cooperative effort of our law enforcement community, but the vigilance of local residents. This is a shining example of the cooperation between our local law enforcement, the U.S. Border Patrol and the community.”

Suspicious border activity can be reported to the U.S. Border Patrol by calling 1-800-537-3220
~USBP~